(b) if so, the action taken by Government; and

(c) the reasons for not notifying the amendments in the Recruitment Rules so far to remove discrimination between Direct Recruits and promotee Assistants in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter regarding provision of uniform eligibility service of 4 years for appearing in Limited Departmental competitive Examination for Section Officer' Grade is under examination in consultation with UPSC. The provision regarding counting of approved service from 1st July of the year in respect of UDC Grade has been notified on 18th January, 95. The matter regarding counting of approve service from 1st July in respect of Assistants Grade is under examination in consultation with Ministry of Law.

Inconvenience due to Five-day Week

6501. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the continuance of five working days in a week, general public is put to great inconvenience;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the said practice, a lot of manhours and tempo of work are wasted as and when other holidays fall in between; and

(c) is so, whether the Fifth Pay Commission has been asked to look into its practical aspect and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) No specific complaint has been received about inconvenience to the general public in relation to five-day-week system.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise. However, the Pay Commission has been provided with a back-ground note on working hours for Central Government employees for its consideration.

Maintenance Allowance in Lieu of Uniform to Government Employees

6502. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge expenditure is being incurred by Government on the purchase and supply of uniform to staff besides monthly washing allowance as also a lot of personnel manning the job;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of entitled categories of staff who have been issued the uniform do not wear it;

(c) whether Government are considering to do away with the practice of issuing the uniform enforced since British Raj except in hospitals and at vulnerable places where it is a must and give the Class-IV staff some kind of maintenance allowance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) As per the Government policy, certain categories of employees are supplied with uniforms as per the norms laid down. The expenditure on the supply of such uniforms is in accordance with the rates prescribed by the Government from time to time.

(b) The employees supplied with uniforms are expected to turn up in proper uniforms while on duty. Failur to do so attracts disciplinary proceedings.